GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:309
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2007
REBATE ON KHADI ITEMS
Ajaya Kumar Shri S.;Hamza Shri T.K.

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a): whether the Government proposes to provide normal and special rebates on Khadi and Khadi related items from the month of April, 2007 before the festivals like Vishu, Esters etc.;

(b): if so, the details of the rebate policy for the year 2007- 08; and

(c): the special steps proposed to promote the use of Khadi and Khadi- related items?

Answer

MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES & AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD)

(a) to (c): A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 308 FOR ANSWER ON 20.03.2007

(a): The process of determining rebate is under consideration of the Government, as in earlier years.

(b): Does not arise.

(c): To promote the use of khadi products throughout the country, including urban areas, the Government, through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), has taken several initiates, such, as,

(i): Organising exhibitions at National/Zonal/District levels;

(ii) Participation in national and international exhibitions;

(iii) Providing financial assistance under Products Development, Design Intervention and Packaging (PRODIP) Scheme for improved designs and packaging of khadi products of khadi products;

(iv): Launching `Mission Khadi` to convert the Khadi fabric into ready-made garments with modern designs;

(v) Launching brand name `Khadi India` for khadi products;

(vi) Launching the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) for implementation in 25 khadi clusters for their holistic development over five years beginning 2005-06;

(vii) KVIC has taken many initiatives to attract modern youth of the country. Marketing development courses have been arranged for the youth, who have just passed out of schools and colleges, through 38 Multi Disciplinary Training Centres, which impart the knowledge on the products of khadi and village industries. Attempts are also being made to increase the use of khadi in schools;

(viii) Public awareness programmes are conducted by KVIC throughout the country to increase the awareness and knowledge among the [public, especially the young generation;

(ix): Different missions are being organized on khadi and village industries keeping in view the tastes of the modern generation

(x) Khadi used by Railways, Defence and Health Ministries of the Government of India.

Besides the above, some more special initiatives are also being considered by KVIC for promoting the use of khadi.